

William "Bill" Ganje

5-16-96

Mass Christian burial for William "Bill" Ganje, 63, Groton, was held on Tuesday, May 14, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Groton. The Rev. Marvin McPhee officiated.

Burial was in the Groton Catholic Cemetery under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel of Groton.

He died Friday, May 10, 1996 at St. Luke's Midland Regional Medical Center in Aberdeen.

William Ganje was born September 11, 1932, to Gabriel and Frances (Wiest) Ganje in Eagle Butte. He grew up in the Eagle Butte area and graduated from Eagle Butte High School in 1950. He attended South Dakota State University in Brookings for one year and then transferred to Northern State Teachers College in Aberdeen. He graduated in 1957 with a bachelor of science degree in later childhood education. While attending Northern, he was a member of Kappa Delta Pi National Honorary Educational Fraternity, the Association of Childhood Education and the Newman Club. After graduation, he taught for one year in the Watertown school system.

He married Norma Ragatz on August 18, 1958, in Redfield. He taught at Redfield. He received his master's degree in education administration from Northern in 1964. He served as elementary principal in Redfield State Hospital. In 1975, he took a job as principal of Groton Elementary School, where he served until 1989. He spent summers painting homes in the Groton area. In 1989, he became superintendent of schools. He retired in 1992.

He enjoyed fishing.

He was a member of the South Dakota Education Association, National Education Association, School Administrators of South Dakota, Redfield Lions Club, Groton



Kiwanis Club, where was past president and St. John the Baptist Catholic Church.

Survivors include his wife of Groton; two sons, Gerald Ganje and John Ganje, both of Groton; two daughters, Sister Norma Jean, OSF, of Oakes, N.D. and Mrs. Peter (Janet) Hoscheid of Groton; six brothers, Jack Ganje of Aberdeen, Frank Ganje of Eagle Butte, Gene Ganje of Mission, Edward Ganje and Clarence Ganje, both of St. Paul, Minn. and Anthony Ganje of Riverside, Calif.; two granddaughters.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one infant son, six brothers and one sister.

Casketbearers were Carroll Dean, Harvey Dorfschmidt, Lauren Harrison, Don Meyer, Dick Seurer and Tom Woods.

Organist was Matt Hinds and soloist was Gene Brolin. Ushers were Gene Abeln, Larry Schelle and Dale McGannon.

Lector was Sister Norma Jean. Servers were Ryan Olson and Josh Hinds.